

Atchison House Fire Claims One Life

(KAIR)--An Atchison woman dies as the result of an Atchison house fire.

Rita Mosher died Friday following what authorities say was her exposure to thick smoke that developed from the one-room fire August 18, at 9043 K-7 Highway.

“The 79-year-old female was found by her son when he returned home from work, noticed the smoke in the house, found her in the living room. She was sitting upright in a chair and appeared to be gasping for air at that time and she was unresponsive,” Interim Atchison Fire Chief Ted Graf, tells MSC News. “The fire itself was found to be in a spare bedroom with fire damage, immediate flame damage, confined to that room...smoke damage was present throughout the structure. The fire had consumed a mattress, box springs, drapes, and some surrounding furnishings, thus putting off some really toxic smoke.”

Mosher died Friday at the Olathe Hospice House, and her [funeral services](#) are scheduled for Wednesday morning at Saint Benedict's Catholic Church, in Atchison.

Graf says the cause of the fire remains under investigation, with the Kansas Fire Marshal's Office heading up the probe.

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